

**CITY OF BELLEVUE  
YOUTH LINK BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

September 9, 2009  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

City Hall  
Room 1E-120  
Bellevue, WA

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:** Co-chairs Brenda Gurung and Alice Zhang, Boardmembers Juan Esparza, Michelle Mattson-Hamilton, Mike Murphy<sup>1</sup>, Nancy O'Brien-Abel<sup>2</sup>, Lt. Dave Sellers, Nikolai Zapertov<sup>3</sup>

**BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT:** Boardmembers Faisal Jaswal, Rachel Jiang, Farrah Khan, Brian Li, Deven Tokuno

**STAFF PRESENT:** Patrick Alina, Helena Stephens

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Rich Brown, Malcolm Fraser, Kyla Lackie, Evelyn Lemoine, Ede Patterson, Michelle Williams-Clark

**MINUTES TAKER:** Michelle Cash

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Zhang at 6:00 p.m.

Timekeeper: Boardmember Zapertov

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A revised agenda was distributed for approval.

**Motion by Boardmember Murphy and second by Boardmember Esparza to approve the meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion by Boardmember Mattson-Hamilton and second by Boardmember Murphy to approve the June 10, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Youth Link Board as presented. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).**

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<sup>1</sup> Departed at 7:45 p.m.

<sup>2</sup> Arrived at 6:04 p.m.

<sup>3</sup> Departed at 7:55 p.m.

**4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**5. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

a. BYC Executive Committee

Mr. Alina reported on the following items:

- There were no BYC and Action Team meetings during the summer break.
- The 2009 Youth Leadership academy, held July 20-24, had over 30 youth participants.
- A \$400 donation was received from the Bellevue Downtown Association for Youth Link's participation during the 2009 6<sup>th</sup> Street Fair.
- There will be a Youth Link Program Open House on September 16.
- The first BYC general membership meeting is scheduled on September 23.
- The Teen Closet Back-to-School event on August 31 had over 70 families and teens in attendance. The next event will be held September 28.
- With Plato's Closet's unprecedented growth, the Teen Closet service expansion plan is underway for 2009-2010 with Ground Zero Teen Center, K-TUB, Old Redmond Firehouse, and Friends of Youth to best manage the increase volume of clothing donations.
- The 2010 Youth Involvement Conference Planning Committee meetings will be held every Tuesday starting September 29.
- A partnership has been created to match interns from Bellevue College Center for Career Connection with Youth Link school programs. The first project for the intern will be working with the *Outspoken* Action Team.

b. Staff Report

Ms. Stephens reported on the following items:

- There will be a Bellevue Youth Court Open House on September 22. September is National Youth Court month.
- The Bellevue Youth Court training will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on October 3.
- The Kelsey Creek Farm Fair will be held on October 10-11 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Kelsey Creek Community Farm Park.
- The Bellevue Youth Theatre presents Monster Mash October 31-November 8.
- Applications are currently being accepted for Youth Link youth and adult board positions.
- The Youth Link Board retreat will be held in October. Details are being finalized.

**6. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Interim Adult co-chair position

Co-Chair Gurung solicited nominations for the Interim Adult Co-Chair position.

**Motion to nominate Boardmember Esparza.**

**Motion to nominate Boardmember Sellers.**

**Motion to nominate Boardmember Murphy.**

**Motion to nominate Boardmember Mattson-Hamilton.**

**Motion to nominate Boardmember O'Brien-Abel.**

Boardmembers Mattson-Hamilton and O'Brien-Abel both declined their nominations.

Co-Chair Gurung solicited other nominations for Interim Adult Co-Chair. There were none. Therefore, nominations for Interim Adult Co-Chair were closed.

**Motion by Boardmember O'Brien-Abel and second by Boardmember Mattson-Hamilton to appoint Boardmember Murphy as the Interim Adult Co-Chair. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

b. Recognition of Nancy O'Brien-Abel and Brenda Gurung

Ms. Stephens and Boardmembers expressed their appreciation to Boardmember O'Brien-Abel and Co-Chair Gurung for their contributions to the Youth Link Board. Both Boardmembers were presented with a token of appreciation.

**7. STUDY SESSION ITEMS:**

a. SOAR funding presentation

Ms. Lemoine explained that SOAR was founded in 2002. SOAR is a community coalition that builds partnerships to support children and youth throughout King County. SOAR is one of the remaining coalitions in King County that pulls early childhood and school age agencies together to collaborate. Ms. Lemoine discussed some of SOAR's accomplishments, as well as Eastside partnerships.

Ms. Lackie summarized the primary goals for school-age children and youth, which include:

- Access to quality out-of-school programs.
- Meaningful roles.
- Meaningful relationships.
- Resiliency and valued identities.

SOAR is interested in partnering with Youth Link for the following reasons:

- To support leadership for Eastside youth in guiding countywide policies and programs.
- To promote meaningful dialogue on effective youth-adult partnerships.
- To support the Youth Involvement Conference.
- To expand Youth Link's marketing research.
- To increase countywide awareness of Youth Link.
- To better equip and support staff who work with Youth Link.
- To promote SOAR's action agenda in East King County.

Ms. Lemoine explained that the funding request of \$10,000 will:

- Help connect Youth Link to countywide best practices, trends, and networking opportunities.
- Promote Youth Link's model throughout King County.
- Offer an adult track at the 2010 Youth Involvement Conference.
- Coordinate a youth track at SOAR's 2010 "Putting the Pieces Together" conference.
- Offer two Eastside multicultural youth leadership curriculum training sessions.
- Promote Eastside training and networking for youth workers.
- Gather Eastside youth input on core competencies and professional development needed for youth workers.

Ms. Lemoine clarified SOAR's current funding source, which includes the City of Seattle, United Way, King County Disabilities, and Children Family Commission of King County. Ms. Stephens noted that she sits on the council for SOAR.

Boardmember Murphy suggested that SOAR research partnership opportunities with Bellevue School District.

b. Bellevue School District Mentorship program presentation

Ms. Williams-Clark discussed the recent "Ground Breakers Day" program held on April 29, 2009 for Black and African-American future leaders. There were approximately 50 students that participated in the event. The goal for the 2009-10 school year is to conduct three Groundbreakers events with the same focus of educational achievement, high aspirations and learning from role models. Ms. Williams-Clark explained the evaluation method for the program as well.

Mr. Patterson has participated as a mentor and explained the mentor's role in the Mentorship program. In addition, Mr. Fraser participated in the program as a student and discussed his personal highlights of the "Ground Breakers Day" program.

Ms. Williams-Clark explained that the Groundbreakers program will help enhance Youth Link by promoting Youth Link to African-American men within the community. In addition, she invited Youth Link members to participate on the planning committee, as well as attend the mentoring events throughout the school year. She clarified that the funding requested is a one-time funding request of \$2,400.

c. Robinswood Challenge Course funding presentation

Mr. Brown summarized his funding request of \$850. The money will be used to take Robinswood Middle School students on a field trip to South Bellevue Community Center to participate in a low ropes course. He added that the program will help promote teamwork, understanding of peers, trusting of others, develop leadership skills, improve reasoning skills, and build self-confidence.

Mr. Brown clarified that approximately 30 students will participate in the ropes program. A certified ropes trainer is required for the event.

d. Youth Link Board Budget

Ms. Stephens provided a review of the Youth Link Implementation Budget Summary for 2007-2009.

e. Youth Link Board Committees Update

**8. ACTION ITEMS:**

**Motion by Boardmember Murphy and second by Boardmember Zapertov to suspend Youth Link funding rules and allow immediate funding decisions for the following programs:**

- **SOAR**
- **Bellevue School District Mentorship program**
- **Robinswood Challenge Course**

**At the question, motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

a. Bellevue School District Mentorship program presentation

**Motion by Boardmember Murphy and second by Boardmember Mattson-Hamilton to approve the \$2,400 funding request for the Bellevue School District Mentorship program. An additional \$2,400 is also approved to expand the Bellevue School District Mentorship program. The additional expansion should be approved by the Youth Link Board and could include another minority groups for the program. Total funding approved: \$4,800. At the question, motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

b. Robinswood Challenge Course funding presentation

**Motion by Boardmember O'Brien-Abel and second by Boardmember Mattson-Hamilton to approve the \$850 funding request for the ropes course. An additional \$1,650 is also approved to allow for additional field trip activities for students. Total funding approved: \$2,500. At the question, motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

c. SOAR funding presentation

**Motion by Boardmember O'Brien-Abel and second by Boardmember Mattson-Hamilton to extend the meeting until 8:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

Boardmember O'Brien-Abel expressed concerns with how SOAR allocates money. Ms. Stephens clarified that SOAR has lost some funding sources due to the current economic conditions. Therefore, additional funding is being sought.

**Motion by Boardmember O'Brien-Abel and second by Boardmember Mattson-Hamilton to grant SOAR's \$10,000 funding request with an additional \$5,000 donation to be allocated to getting school-ready program in Bellevue and at least five multicultural leadership training programs in Bellevue. At the question, motion carried unanimously (7-0). Boardmember Zapertov abstained from the vote.**

**Motion by Boardmember O'Brien-Abel and second by Boardmember Esparza to extend the meeting until 8:10 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

9. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

**Motion by Boardmember Esparza and second by Boardmember Mattson-Hamilton to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).**